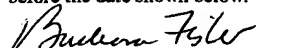


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail EV327119885US in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Box PCT, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on or before the date shown below.

  
Barbara Fisher  
Date: 10 January 2005

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PCT International Application of )  
ADAMS, Nicholas, James, et al. )  
Int. Appln No.: PCT/EP2003/006761 )  
Intl. Filing Date: 25 June 2003 )  
PROCESS TO PREPARE A HEAVY AND A LIGHT )  
LUBRICATING BASE OIL )

10 January 2005

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Box PCT (DO/EO/US)  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.115**

Prior to taking up the case for examination, please amend the application as follows: